

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested. Currently, claims 1-2 and 4-11 are pending in this application.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102:

Claims 1-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Radhamohan et al (U.S. '437, hereinafter "Radhamohan").

Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

For a reference to anticipate a claim, each element must be found, either expressly or under principles of inherency, in the reference. Each element of the claimed invention is not found in Radhamohan. For example, Radhamohan fails to disclose "wherein after putting the switching element on one of the two rows of arms in an ON state to carry an electric current to the windings, the control means controls ON/OFF of the switching element selected as the electricity introduction stoppage element by means of a pulse-width modulation method," as required by independent claim 1 and its dependents. Radhamohan also fails to disclose the following limitations of independent claim 10 and its dependents:

"wherein the control circuit puts a switching element on one of the plurality of arms in an ON state to carry an electric current to the windings, and causes an electricity introduction stoppage element that is one of the two switching elements put in an ON state, to be put in an OFF state and causes the separate switching element on the same arm as that, on which the electricity introduction stoppage element is disposed, to be put in an ON state,

wherein after putting the switching element on one of the plurality of arms in an ON state to carry an electric current to the windings, the control circuit controls ON/OFF of the switching element selected as the electricity introduction stoppage element by means of a pulse-width modulation method.”

The above limitations are supported by the exemplary embodiments illustrated in Figs. 1A-1B and Figs. 7A-7B. When executing PWM control of switching element Sb of arm Av (switching element Sb of arm Av is a PWM control object element in this example) to change the state of switching element Sb of arm Av from ON to OFF, the switching element Sa of arm Av (i.e., the same arm) is placed in an ON state. By performing this, a return current does not flow through a diode 112a of arm Av, the diode 112a being connected in parallel to switching element Sa of arm Av. By flowing current through the separate switching element in the same arm (switching element Sa of arm Av) as the switching element Sb of arm Av is electrically stopped through PWM control, a switching element can be employed that has a much lower resistance than a diode. Accordingly, heat generation can be restrained. (See page 15, line 10 - page 16, line 16 of the originally-filed specification).

Radhamohan provides a description involving PWM control. However, Radhamohan fails to disclose driving a switching element of the same arm during PWM execution as required by the claimed invention. Radhamohan also fails to

TANI et al.
Application No. 10/829,233
June 23, 2005

appreciate the benefits of restraining heat generation resulting from these claimed features.

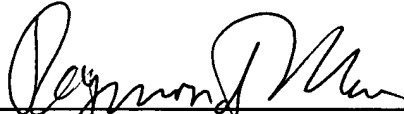
Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 1-2 and 4-11 are not anticipated by Radhamohan and respectfully requests that the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) be withdrawn.

Conclusion:

Applicant believes that this entire application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests a notice to this effect. If the Examiner has any questions or believes that an interview would further prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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